

Remarks

Claims 113-169 are pending, and have been subject to a restriction requirement.

Applicants have elected, without traverse, the invention characterized as falling under group I, which is covered by claims 113, 115-135, and 137-144. Accordingly, Applicants cancel, without prejudice and for reasons unrelated to patentability, claims 114, 136, 145-169, as being drawn to an unelected invention. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the claims cancelled herein in a division, continuation, continuation-in-part, re-exam, or reissue application of this Application.

Claims 115-118, 122, 126, 129, 131, 132, 134, 137, 138, and 140-142 have been amended for reasons unrelated to patentability to depend from presently pending claims and to correct inadvertent typographical errors. Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii), a marked-up copy of these amended claims is attached herewith as Appendix A.

Applicants have added new claims 170-209.

New claims 170-173 have been added to depend from claim 135. Support for these claims can be found throughout the Application as originally filed.

New claims 174-209 have been added to cover a method for inducing a therapeutic host response against an antigen by allowing a binding agent/antigen complex to form, whereby the effective host immune response against the antigen is elicited. Support for these new claims can be found throughout the Application as originally filed, particularly at page 11, lines 4-8; at page 11, lines 14-19; at page 12, lines 13-24; at page 16, line 25 through page 17, line 2; and at page 21, lines 13-19.

None of the above amendments adds any new matter to the Application.

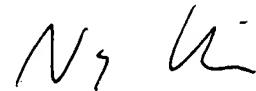
Amendment and Response Under 37 C.F.R. §111
U.S.S.N. 09/376,604

Conclusions

Applicants request that the Application, as presently amended, be subject to substantive examination. If the Examiner believes that any further discussion of this communication would be helpful, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone.

No fee is believed due at this time, however, please charge any fees or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,
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APPENDIX A

Marked-up Version of the Amended Claims Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)

115. (Amended) The method of claim[s] 113 [or 114], wherein the host immune response comprises a cellular and humoral immune response.

116. (Amended) The method of claim[s] 113 [or 114], wherein the host immune response comprises a cellular immune response.

117. (Amended) The method of claim[s] 113 [or 114], wherein the host immune response comprises a humoral immune response.

118. (Amended) The method of claim[s] 113 [or 114], wherein the multi-epitopic *in vivo* antigen is a soluble antigen.

122. (Amended) The method [according to any of claims 113-121] of claim 113, wherein the binding agent is an antibody.

126. (Amended) The method [according to any of claims 113-125] of claim 113, wherein contacting [a] the multi-epitopic *in vivo* antigen comprises administering a binding agent that has been exposed to radiation.

129. (Amended) The method of claim[s] 113[-128], wherein the antigen is CA125.

131. (Amended) The method of claim[s] 122 [-127], wherein the antigen is soluble circulating antigen and the antigen is contacted with a sufficient amount of antibody to present all the circulating antigen to the immune system.

132. (Amended) The method of claim[s] 113 [or 114], wherein the antigen is contacted with binding agent in an amount of from 0.1 µg to 2 mg per kg of body weight of the host.

134. (Amended) The method of claim[s] 113 [or 114], wherein allowing the binding agent to form a binding agent/antigen pair presents other epitopes on the antigen to the host's immune system.

137. (Amended) The method of claim[s] 135 [and 136], wherein the antigen is a soluble antigen.

138. (Amended) The method of claim[s] 135 [and 136], wherein the antigen is a tumor antigen.

140. (Amended) The method of claim[s] 135 [and 136], wherein the binding agent is a murine monoclonal antibody which does not induce isotypic HAMA induced toxicity in the host.

141. (Amended) The method [according to any of claims 113-140] of claim 113, wherein the composition comprising a binding agent further comprises one or more adjuvants, one or more carriers, one or more excipients, one or more stabilizers, one or more imaging reagents, one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or physiologically acceptable saline.

142. (Amended) The method [according to any of claims 113-141] of claim 113, wherein contacting comprises administering by any immunologically suitable route.